



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY**  
MICHIGAN VETERANS TRUST FUND

JEFF BARNES  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**

Piquette Square  
Detroit, Michigan

December 2, 2014  
10:00 a.m.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

***Board of Trustees and Staff***

Chairman John E. James, present  
Vice Chairman Charles Kosal, present  
Trustee Jason Biber, excused  
Trustee Robert Williams, present  
Trustee Barry Wood, present  
Trustee Shawn Wilson, present  
Trustee Brandi McBride, present

Lindell Holm, *Director*  
Mary Kay Robinson, *Financial Supervisor*  
Dawn Bollis, *Dept. Analysis*  
Erik Napieralski, *Dept. Tech*

Chairman John E. James called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Notice of Open Meetings Act Compliance**

Ms. Robinson stated that the meeting notices were posted pursuant to Public Act 267 of 1976, the Open Meetings Act.

**Introduction of Guests**

Jim Dempsey – DAV Commander  
Robert Galliard – DAV Executive Secretary

**Public Comments**

Mr. Dempsey explained the goal of the DAV is in assisting veterans throughout the State of Michigan. They are trying to get a Service Officer who will come to Piquette Square on a weekly basis to assist the resident.

**Approval of Minutes**

A MOTION (Kosal/Williams) to approve the Public Minutes, of November 5, 2014, passed and carried.

Open session was closed at 10:45 to review cases.

## **Appeals & Reviews - Reconsideration**

**There were two personal hearings conducted at the December 2, 2014 emergent need work session. A total of 48 appeals and reviews were considered.**

**Case RR-1 (Cass County)**

WITHDRAWN

**Case RR-2 (Cass County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for electric (\$1,814.00) because there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. Previous grant assistance has not resolved the situation.

**Case RH-3 (Hillsdale County)**

DENIED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for a new septic system (\$4,200.00) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case RR-4 (Ingham County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for a pair of shoes (\$116.60) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case RR-5 (Ingham County)**

DENIED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$1,191.78; for auto repair (\$1,141.78) and towing (\$50.00) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case RR-6 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$1,116.34; for auto insurance (\$137.78), rent (\$835.00), DTE (\$52.56) and license plate renewal (\$91.00) because there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume her financial responsibilities.

**Case RH-7 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$8,447.00; for a new roof (\$5,987.00) and ceiling repair (\$2,460.00) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case RR-8 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$9,455.00 (roof) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case RR-9 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$2,899.00 (water softener) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented and the situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve. Previous grant assistance has not resolved the problem.

**Case RH-10 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$6,021.53; for two reclining chairs (\$1,123.57), new carpet (\$2,227.00), vacuum (\$199.99), 2 televisions (\$556.00), computer (\$572.34), material cutting tool (\$227.90), laptop (\$927.85) and sewing supplies (\$186.88) because sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses.

**Case RH-11 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$4,655.00 (basement flood repair) because sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses.

**Case RH-12 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$13,853.35 (basement flood repair) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented. Please find attached other resources you should pursue.

**Case RR-13 (Sanilac County)**

DENIED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$9,952.00; for windows (\$4,327.00) and bathroom repair (\$5,625.00) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented. Please find attached other resources you should pursue.

**Case RH-14 (Sanilac County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$5,221.34 (2nd layer of shingles) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case A-15 (Ingham County)**

DENIED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$1,269.44 for rent because previous grant assistance has not resolved the situation.

**Case A-16 (Kalamazoo County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$995.00 for auto repair because sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses.

**Case RH-17 (Houghton County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$4,6230.00; for propane furnace (\$3,505.00), propane fill (\$1,000.00) and propane tank permit (\$125.00) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case RH-18 (Ingham County)**

DENIED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$2,431.83 for mortgage because there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities.

**Case RH-19 (Iosco County)**

RESOLVED @ COUNTY LEVEL

**Case RH-20 (Kalkaska County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$8,900.00 for a new roof because you do not meet the eligibility requirements per Board Policy #102, which states that a Veteran must have 180 days of honorable service during a wartime era.

**Case RH-21 (Manistee County)**

APPROVED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your request for \$5,314.00 for roof and home repairs.

**Case RO-22 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$6,281.18; for the basement paneling (\$2,585.18) and new vinyl tile (\$3,696.00) because sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses.

**Case RR-23 (Shiawassee County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$519.44 for 4 new tires because a payment schedule can be arranged with existing income. Sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses..

**Case RH-24 (Wayne County)**

DENIED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$5,740.00 for a new furnace because sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses.

**Case A-25 (Calhoun County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$3,781.37; for 2012 property taxes (\$2,751.28), propane (\$815.00) and electric (\$215.09) because applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-26 (Lake County)**

PARTIAL (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and partially approved your application for no more than \$2,132.00 for extractions and dentures. Assistance requested for septic field (\$4,660.00), water well (\$4,765.00) have been disapproved because an unforeseen temporary, emergent need is not presented.

**Case A-27 (Macomb County)**

RESOLVED @ COUNTY LEVEL

**Case A-28 (Wayne County)**

WITHDRAWN

**Case A-29 (Wayne County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$371.11 for water and sewer because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented. Applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-30 (Wayne County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$2,991.39; for rent (\$2,220.00) and water (\$771.39) because sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expenses.

**Case A-31 (Oakland County)**

PARTIAL (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for no more than \$10,000.00 for a new septic and drain field contingent upon the remaining amount being paid by MiVHAP program.

**Case A-32 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$1,500.00 for rent as there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-33 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (JKosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$6,312.00 (furnace and a/c) because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented.

**Case A-34 (Kent County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$2,194.80 (rent) because the landlord has already evicted you from the property. Therefore, due to circumstances, this request has been nullified.

**Case A-35 (Kent County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustee disapproved your application for \$2,905.46 (electric) because there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities.

**Case RM-36 (Kent County)**

APPROVED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your request for \$3,464.00 for dentures.

**Case RR-37 (Saginaw County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$1,400.00 for auto purchase because there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his responsibilities.

**Case RR-38 (Kalamazoo County)**

DENIED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$673.00 for rent because previous grant assistance has not resolved the situation.

**Case A-39 (Oscoda County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$8,600.00 for a new roof because an unforeseen temporary emergent need is not presented. Please find attached other resources you should pursue.

**Case A-40 (Berrien County)**

PARTIAL (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for mold remediation (\$681.24). The basement repairs (\$11,862.00) were denied because a payment schedule can be arranged with existing income.

**Case A-41 (Sanilac County)**

APPROVED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your request for dental extractions and dentures (\$5,936.00) but did approved 12 months of dental premiums from MetLife (1-888-310-1681) with the amount not to exceed \$800.00. This insurance coverage should allow you to afford the dental work requested.

**Case A-42 (Oakland County)**

APPROVED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for \$3,929.67 for vehicle repair.

**Case RR-43 (Oakland County)**

DENIED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$3,486.00 for a new furnace because previous grant assistance has not resolved the situation.

**Case RR-44 (Manistee County)**

DENIED (Williams/Wood)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$5,600.00 for a new boiler because the proper documentation (mortgage statement) was not provided in a timely manner for the Board's review.

**Case RH-45 (Montcalm County)**

DENIED (Wood/McBride)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for \$2,517.68 for mortgage because applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve. Other resources should be pursued (see attached list).

**Case A-46 (Cass County)**

DENIED (McBride/Wilson)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$1,115.48; for rent (\$750.00) and auto payment (\$365.48) because previous grant assistance has not resolved the situation.

**Case A-47 (Lake County)**

DENIED (Wilson/Kosal)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$16,148.22; for a new roof (\$11,332.22), new furnace (\$3,628.00), refrigerator (\$388.00) and hot water heater (\$800.00) because the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-6 (Kalamazoo County)**

APPROVED (Kosal/Williams)

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved the adjusted amount for a new well (\$5,760.00) on your application dated March 30, 2014. A payment voucher will be issued when the work is completed and properly inspected.

The total amount authorized for emergency grants approved was 7/48 for **\$32,080.91**. Approved 6/20 Appeals for **(\$23,302.91)**, 1/13 Review/Housing for **(\$5,314.00)**, 1/1 Review/Medical for **(\$3,464.00)**, 0/0 Review/Conflict of Interest for **(\$0.00)**, 0/13 Review/Repetitive for **(\$0.00)** and 0/1 Review/Other for **(\$0.00)**.

Board meeting re-opened at 1:00 for the remainder of the meeting.

#### **Accounting Report**

A MOTION (Kosal/McBride) to accept reports 8B – Expenditure Detail and 8C – Allocations and Allotments, passed and carried.

Trustees discussed the monthly reports received from Treasury.

#### **County & District Committees--Committee Appointments**

A MOTION (Williams/Wood) to accept the following appointments and re-appointments, passed and carried.

The **American Legion** recommends the following **reappointments**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Daniel Cox	Alpena	12-31-2017
Frank Williams	Barry	12-31-2017
Bernard Langlois	Genesee	12-31-2017
Henry Altman	Iosco	12-31-2017
Louis Oberle	Mackinac	12-31-2017
Andrew Knapp, Jr.	Macomb	12-31-2017
David Thomas	Marquette	12-31-2017
Robert Forton	Montcalm	12-31-2017
Mario Caramella	Ontonagon	12-31-2017
Elmer Duff	Wayne	12-31-2017
Kenneth Hardy	Luce	12-31-2017
Joseph Warrall	Saginaw	12-31-2016

The **American Legion** recommends the following **new appointments**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Jim Dougovito	Baraga	12-31-2017
Richard Burley	Kalkaska	12-31-2017
Deborah Hardeman	Midland	12-31-2017

The **Veterans of Foreign Wars** recommends the following **re-appointments**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Jack Allbee	Clare	12-31-2017
Kay Rathburn	Eaton	12-31-2017
Sam White	Chippewa	12-31-2017
James Hock	Ionia – Independent	12-31-2017
Phillip Jennings	Isabella	12-31-2017
Don Kengerski	Oakland	12-31-2017
Jim Varnum	Midland	12-31-2017
Marshall Westover	Monroe	12-31-2017
Norman Mikkelson	Muskegon	12-31-2017
William Schober	Ind. - Ontonagon	12-31-2017

Robert Rebo	Ontonagon	12-31-2015
William Cole	Houghton-Keweenaw	12-31-2016

The **VFW** recommends the following **new appointment**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Leonard Goheen	Sanilac	12-31-2017

The **DAV** recommends the following **reappointments**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
James Stringham	Manistee	12-31-2017

The **AMVETS** recommends the following **reappointments**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Carl Frenzke	Bay	12-31-2017
Stephen Young	Huron	12-31-2017
Alden Froblom	Iron	12-31-2017

The **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE** recommends the following **reappointments**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Richard Monroe	Genesee	12-31-2017

Please accept the following **Independent** for reappointment:

<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term of Service</b>
Samuel Haglund	Kent	12-31-2017

#### **Unfinished Business**

A MOTION (Wood/McBride) to remove Les Schneider, the DAV representative, from the Shiawassee Committee per Board Policy 302 passed and carried. Trustee Wilson recused himself from voting.

#### **New Business**

Director Holm and Trustee Kosal updated the Board of Trustees on a meeting that was held with MVAA to discuss a proposal to update the Agency's/Michigan Veterans Trust Fund to the Sales Force software. Director Holm will keep the Board abreast of the progress with this proposal and other options discussed within the Agency.

#### **MVTF Board Activities**

Board of Trustees discussed attendance at meetings and will revisit this matter at the January 6, 2015 meeting.

#### **MVTF Staff Activities**

Director Holm informed the Trustees that he will be forwarding the newsletter that was mailed out a week ago.

Director Holm informed the Trustees that he accepted a donation from the Forgotten Eagles in the amount of \$6,970.00.

Director Hold informed the Trustees that he will be attending a ceremony in Montcalm County in December to accept a donation from the Carson City School District in the amount of \$9,000.00 for the Montcalm County Veterans Trust Fund.

**Good of the Order**

None

**Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 pm

*Approved:*

---

*John James, Chairman*

---

*Date*